

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Yasunao KATAYAMA et al.

Serial No: 10/608,464

Filed: June 27, 2003

For: AN APPARATUS FOR ENCODING AND  
DECODING

Examiner: Alphonse, Fritz

Art Unit: 2133

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION  
DATED OCTOBER 6, 2006**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is made in reply to the Office Action mailed October 6, 2006, setting a three-month shortened statutory period of response expiring January 8, 2007, since January 6, 2007 falls on a Saturday. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace Abstract with the following paragraph (a marked-up version of the changes is included herewith):

A communication device which executes proper communications by correcting communication errors caused by noise generated on a transmission line or the like. An encoding device for adding error correction code to an input data sequence is provided with a first code encoding unit for adding binary error correction code to first data blocks into which the input data sequence is divided, and a second code encoding unit for adding a symbol error correction code for correcting errors by a symbol unit of a predetermined length to second data blocks into which the input data sequence is divided in a form different from that of the plurality of first data blocks.